

once noticed pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, have precedence of all other questions except motions to adjourn only at a time or place designated by the chair in the legislative schedule within two legislative days after April 11, 1997. **Page H1599**

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 118, electing Representative Torres to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services. **Page H1603**

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H1612–19.

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1545.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H1556–57, H1581–82, and H1582. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 11:00 a.m. and adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT AMENDMENTS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Risk Management and Specialty Crops continued hearings on reform of the Commodity Exchange Act and provisions of H.R. 467, Commodity Exchange Act Amendments of 1997. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Federal Drug Administration, and Related Agencies approved for full Committee action Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary held a hearing on the SBA, the Economic Development Administration, the Minority Business Development Agency, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the EEOC. Testimony was heard from Aida Alvarez, Administrator, SBA; and the following officials of the Department of Commerce, Phillip A. Singerman, Assistant Secretary, Economic Development Administration; and Paul R. Weber, Assistant Director, Minority Business Development Agency; John D. Holum, Director, U.S. Arms Control and Disar-

mament Agency; and Gilbert F. Casellas, Chairman, EEOC.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development approved for full Committee action Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior concluded appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

LABOR–HHS–EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NATIONAL SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security approved for full Committee action Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Ballistic Missile Defense. Testimony was heard from Gen. Lester Lyles, USA, Director, Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, Department of Defense.

VA–HUD–INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies approved for full Committee action Supplemental Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1997.

The Subcommittee also concluded hearings on the EPA. Testimony was heard from Carol M. Browner, Administrator, EPA.

HOUSING OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY ACT

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Continued markup of H.R. 2, Housing Opportunity and Responsibility Act of 1997.

Will continue tomorrow.

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND AMENDMENTS ACT

Committee on Commerce: Ordered reported H.R. 688, Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Amendments of 1997.

COMMON CENTS STOCK PRICING ACT

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials concluded hearings on H.R. 1053, the Common Cents Stock Pricing Act of

1997. Testimony was heard from William Johnston, President, New York Stock Exchange; Tom Ryan, President, American Stock Exchange; Robert M. Greber, Chairman and CEO, Pacific Exchange; and public witnesses.

OSHA'S METHYLENE CHLORIDE RULE

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing on OSHA's Methylene Chloride rule. Testimony was heard from Emily Sheketoff, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health, Department of Labor; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—NURSING HOMES HEALTH CARE

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations held an oversight hearing on Health Care in Nursing Homes. Testimony was heard from George Grob, Deputy Inspector General, Evaluations and Inspections, Department of Health and Human Services; Leslie Aronovitz, Associate Director, Health Financing and Systems Issues, GAO; Steven Wiggs, Assistant Attorney General, State of Arizona; Stephen M. Spahr, Deputy Attorney General, Director, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, State of New York; and public witnesses.

PARTICULAR MATTER AND OZONE—EPA'S PROPOSED STANDARDS

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources, and Regulatory Affairs held a hearing on "EPA's Proposed Standards for Particulate Matter and Ozone: Is EPA Above the Law?" Testimony was heard from George Voinovich, Governor, Ohio; Jeffrey Schoenberg, Representative, State of Illinois; Richard Brodski, Assemblyman, State of New York; Richard Russman, Senator, State of New Hampshire; Susan Golding, Mayor, San Diego, California; Frances Monk, Mayor, Port Neches, Texas; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue April 23.

POSTAL REFORM ACT

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on Postal Service held a hearing on H.R. 22, Postal Reform Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DORNAN V. SANCHEZ

Committee on House Oversight: Began consideration of motions on subpoenas issued in connection with the Contested Election in the Forty-sixth District of California.

ZAIRE

Committee on International Relations: Favorably considered and adopted a motion urging the Chairman to request that H. Res. 115, amended, concerning the promotion of peace, stability, and democracy in Zaire, be considered on the Suspension Calendar.

BURMESE REFUGEES IN THAILAND

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights held a hearing on Burmese Refugees in Thailand. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—BANKRUPTCY SYSTEM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held an oversight hearing on the operation of the bankruptcy system and a status report from the National Bankruptcy Review Commission. Testimony was heard from Brady C. Williamson, Chairman, National Bankruptcy Review Commission; George Paine, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, Middle District, Tennessee, Administrative Office of the United States Courts; and public witnesses.

QUADRENNIAL DEFENSE REVIEW AND NATIONAL DEFENSE PANEL

Committee on National Security: Held a hearing on Quadrennial Defense Review and National Defense Panel. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the National Defense Panel, Philip A. Odeen, Chairman; Adm. David Jeremiah, USN (Rtd.) and Andrew Krepinevich, both members of the Panel.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Ordered reported the following measures: H. Con. Res. 8, amended, expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the significance of maintaining the health and stability of coral reef ecosystems; H.R. 39, African Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1997; H.R. 408, amended, International Dolphin Conservation Program Act; H.R. 449, amended, Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1997; and H.R. 478, amended, Flood Prevention and Family Protection Act of 1997.

21ST CENTURY PATENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted by voice vote an open rule providing 1 hour of debate on H.R. 400, 21st Century Patent System Improvement Act. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule makes in order the Committee on the Judiciary amendment in the nature of a substitute now printed in the bill and modified by section 2

of the rule. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as modified, and provides that it shall be considered as read.

The rule provides for priority in recognition for those amendments that are pre-printed in the Congressional Record prior to their consideration on the floor. The rule also allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill, and allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to reduce votes to five minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a fifteen minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Hyde, Representatives Coble, Rohrabacher, Conyers and Frank of Massachusetts.

SUSPENSIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted by voice vote a resolution providing for the consideration of motions to suspend the rules on Wednesday, April 23, 1997 and Thursday April 24, 1997. Any matter to be considered under suspension will be announced from the House floor at least one hour prior to consideration. The rule provides that the Speaker or his designee will consult with the Majority Leader or his designee on any suspension considered under this resolution.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 363, to amend section 2118 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to extend the Electric and Magnetic Fields Research and Public Information Dissemination Program; H.R. 437, amended, Marine Resources Revitalization Act; H.R. 1271, amended, FAA Research, Engineering, and Development Authorization Act of 1997; H.R. 1272, amended, Fire Administration Authorization Act of 1997; H.R. 1273, amended, National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1997; H.R. 1274, amended, National Institute of Standards and Technology Authorization Act of 1997; H.R. 1275, amended, Civilian Space Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999; H.R. 1276, amended, Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1997; H.R. 1277, Department of Energy Civilian Research and Development Act of 1997; and H.R. 1278, amended, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1997.

PERSIAN GULF WAR VETERANS—HEALTH PROBLEMS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Health and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a joint hearing on health problems

of Persian Gulf War Veterans and possible exposure to chemical warfare agents. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Bernard Rostker, Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary, Gulf War Illness; Col. Thomas P. Leavitt, USA, Chief, Inspections Division, Inspector General, Department of the Army; and Col. Joe Huber, USA, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Army, Operations; Robert D. Walpole, Chief, Persian Gulf Task Force, CIA; and public witnesses.

ADOPTION PROMOTION ACT

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Human Resources approved for full Committee action H.R. 867, amended, Adoption Promotion Act of 1997.

ELECTRONIC FEDERAL TAX PAYMENT SYSTEM

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System. Testimony was heard from Representatives Hastings of Washington and Linda Smith of Washington; the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: James E. Donelson, Chief, Taxpayer Service, IRS; and Russell D. Morris, Commissioner, Financial Management Service; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1997

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, to hold hearings on crop and revenue insurance issues, 9 a.m., SR-332.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture, 9 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of the Treasury, focusing on law enforcement programs, 9:30 a.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on Korea, Burma, and Hong Kong, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Supreme Court of the United States and the Judiciary, 1:30 p.m., S-146, Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Readiness, to resume hearings on S. 450, the National Defense